

global policy problems can be solved with some simple math.

Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to join Senators BYRD, HAGEL, and CRAIG to speak about the threat posed by the administration's support of an international global climate treaty. This is a very serious issue, and for too long it has not received the attention it deserves. I applaud Senator BYRD for focusing attention on this matter through his sense of the Senate resolution and I am pleased to be an original cosponsor.

In December of this year, the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change will conclude negotiations on a binding treaty to control the emissions of greenhouse gases by the developed nations. The Clinton administration has been pushing hard for such an agreement and intends to implement this treaty in the United States. I would note, however, that this treaty applies only to developed nations. Emerging nations are not included. Countries such as China, India, and South Korea will not pay the costs of the energy taxes or be constrained by the caps on manmade emissions as will the United States. It will be business as usual for these nations despite the fact that emissions of carbon dioxide, the primary greenhouse gas, from developing nations will shortly surpass those of the developed nations.

Despite this obvious flaw, such a treaty might yet be logical if we knew that clear benefits would be derived as a result, but we do not. Scientists are sharply divided as to whether the Earth is warming because of human activity. How then can we justify supporting a treaty which even the U.S. Department of Energy has concluded will be devastating to the economy? How can we seriously consider any proposal which will cost American jobs, slow economic growth, and encourage domestic industries to move offshore when the next century's greatest contributors of greenhouse gases will not share even the smallest portion of this burden. Mr. President, the answer is simple: We cannot and should not.

The United States has made dramatic improvements in pollution control in the last two decades. A clean environment is of paramount importance to Americans, and we will continue to work responsibly toward protecting this Nation's air, water, and land. We must not, however, saddle our economy with new taxes and regulations the sole purpose of which is to limit American productivity. We cannot enter into an agreement which will do significant harm to our economy and put us at a competitive disadvantage relative to emerging nations when the jury is still out on the effects that mankind may have on climate change.

If future research provides irrefutable evidence that manmade emissions are contributing to global warming, then all Nation's should work together in concert to identify and reduce the greenhouse gases responsible

for such a phenomenon. Today, we are far from having such evidence, and to act without it is simply not sound policy.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

SENATE RESOLUTION 99—RELATIVE TO OVER-THE-COUNTER MEDICATIONS

Mr. DASCHLE submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources:

S. RES. 99

Resolved,

SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

(1) The Food and Drug Administration has proposed that the content and format of over-the-counter (OTC) drug product labels be made more user-friendly to help consumers better understand how to properly use these medications.

(2) Almost 60 percent of total OTC drug product sales of \$29,000,000,000 are made by community retail pharmacies, where a pharmacist is available for consultation with the consumer about the product.

(3) A significant number of potent prescription medications have been switched to OTC status over the last few years and others are likely to be switched over in the next few years. Many consumers may be unaware of the potential problems that may occur when OTC and prescription drugs are inappropriately used together, and should be encouraged to consult with their doctor and pharmacist. The pharmacist may have the only complete record of all the medications being taken by the consumer that would help avoid these problems.

(4) Pharmacists can help the consumer select the most cost-effective OTC drug product based on the symptoms presented to the pharmacist.

(5) Interaction with the pharmacist on using OTC drug products is particularly important for older Americans, who already use one-third of all prescription drug products and one-third of OTC drug products. As the population ages, older Americans are expected to use almost half of all OTC drug products by the year 2000. According to recent studies, the health care system, including the Medicaid and Medicare programs, incur billions of dollars in unnecessary costs each year as a result of medication-related problems.

(6) The importance of consumer interaction with the pharmacist about OTC drug products was recognized by Congress when it required that Medicaid prospective drug utilization review programs include screening for "serious interactions with nonprescription or OTC medications".

(7) Encouraging pharmacist interaction with consumers on OTC drug products is consistent with recent attempts by consumer groups, the pharmacy community, and the Food and Drug Administration to increase the quality and quantity of written and oral information being provided to consumers with their prescription medications.

SEC. 2. CONSULTATION.

It is the sense of the Senate that the Food and Drug Administration should include a provision in the Administration's new final regulation on the content and format of over-the-counter drug labels which requires that such labels include the phrase "Consult your doctor or pharmacist".

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, today I am submitting a resolution that rec-

ognizes the essential role our Nation's community pharmacists play in protecting the public health and educating consumers about over-the-counter [OTC] medications.

The Food and Drug Administration has proposed revisions to the content and format of OTC product labels to make them more informative and consumer-friendly. Among these changes, FDA has proposed adding to OTC labels the recommendation: "Ask your doctor or pharmacist." The FDA is currently soliciting comments on this proposed change, particularly on the benefits and appropriateness of referring consumers to pharmacists for guidance on OTC medications. By demonstrating strong support for a labeling change that refers consumers to pharmacists as well as to doctors, this resolution acknowledges the relevant expertise of community pharmacists and the contribution they make in assuring proper use of OTC medications.

Each year, millions of Americans purchase medications such as painkillers, allergy medications, cold and flu remedies, and other products to treat nonacute medical conditions. Most of these products are purchased at pharmacies, where an on-site pharmacist is always accessible to help the consumer select the medication that is most appropriate and cost effective for them. The labeling change this resolution supports acknowledges that consumers face an intimidating array of medication options, and it reinforces the fact that pharmacists have the experience and expertise to help consumers make the right choice about their medications.

Making this labeling change is also a matter of public health. A significant number of potent prescription medications are now available on an over-the-counter basis, and many more are likely to be introduced. Most consumers are unaware of the potential problems that may occur when prescription drugs and OTC products are taken together. In some cases, the pharmacist may be the only health professional with a complete record of all medications being taken by the consumer. The pharmacist's intervention may well prevent tragic consequences.

Recommending that consumers consult with their pharmacist is particularly important for older Americans, who already use one-third of all prescription and OTC drug products. With the aging of the population, older Americans are expected to use almost half of all OTC medications by the year 2000. As OTC products proliferate and more potent medications become available, the risks to seniors and other consumers compound. It makes sense to foster the pharmacist-consumer link to minimize the potential problems that may result from this trend.

Finally, this labeling change can save the health system money. According to recent studies, Medicare, Medicaid, and the health care system as a whole incur billions of dollars in unnecessary costs each year as a result of

medication-related problems. Input from the pharmacist can help reduce this wasted spending, and more importantly, prevent the needless pain and suffering this spending reflects.

For these reasons, I ask my colleagues to join me in urging the FDA to turn a good idea into a reality and make this labeling change. It is a minor revision that could make a major difference as consumers negotiate the increasingly complex array of medications available without a prescription.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 32—RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING AMERICAN AIRMEN

Mr. HUTCHINSON (for himself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. HELMS, Mr. FAIRCLOTH, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. REID, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. MACK, Mr. KOHL, Mr. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. ASHCROFT) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. CON. RES. 32

Whereas during World War II, 168 Allied airmen were captured by the enemy and held as political prisoners at the Buchenwald concentration camp in Weimar, Germany;

Whereas the captured airmen included 82 Americans, 26 Canadians, 48 Britons, 9 Australians, 2 New Zealanders, and 1 Jamaican;

Whereas the facts and circumstances of their confinement are amply documented in the official records maintained by the National Archives and Records Administration;

Whereas a report from the International Red Cross concerning Stalag Luft III in Sagan, Germany, mentioned 6 American airmen held at Buchenwald, including one whose name does not appear on the lists maintained by the National Archives and Records Administration;

Whereas since the liberation of Buchenwald in 1945 numerous personal memoirs, scholarly books, and articles have been published describing the conditions at the concentration camp;

Whereas this extensive documentation records the extraordinarily inhuman treatment, deprivations, and personal suffering inflicted on the 168 Allied airmen and other inmates at Buchenwald; and

Whereas Allied Governments and veterans organizations outside the United States have granted special recognition to their citizens and servicemembers who were held as prisoners of war in World War II concentration camps: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That the Congress—

(1) recognizes and commends the American airmen held as political prisoners at the Buchenwald concentration camp during World War II for their faithful service, personal bravery, and exceptional fortitude; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation recognizing and commending the service, bravery, and fortitude of those airmen.

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I rise today, to join with my friend and colleague Senator JOSEPH LIEBERMAN, in submitting a bill that will give appropriate and well-deserved recognition to a group of World War II veterans who were held as German polit-

ical prisoners at the Nazi concentration camp, Buchenwald. Fittingly, today is Shavout in the Jewish religion. This holiday commemorates the Jews receiving the Torah on Mount Sinai and celebrates their fleeing from Egypt.

First and foremost, I want to thank the original cosponsors of this bill: Senators HELMS, FAIRCLOTH, TORRICELLI, REID of Nevada, SMITH of New Hampshire, SANTORUM, HAGEL, CRAIG, MACK, KOHL, MURKOWSKI, and ASHCROFT.

Mr. President, Congressmen DAVE WELDON and PETER DEUTSCH will be introducing similar legislation later today in the House of Representatives.

These brave airmen were different from other Allied prisoners, because they were held at Buchenwald, a Nazi concentration camp—and therefore not subject to the protections of the Geneva Convention.

The Nazi concentration camps will forever occupy an ignominious place in our human history, and we have long recognized the bravery and daring of many prisoners who fought their Nazi oppressors and struggled to win political and religious freedom.

Tragically, Mr. President, the United States has never formally recognized the service, sacrifice, and bravery of these American airmen while they were held as political prisoners at the Buchenwald concentration camp.

Our bill, which has been endorsed by the American Ex-Prisoners of War and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, would recognize these 82 American airmen and ask that the President issue a proclamation commending their service. Mr. President, I do have a list of the names and whereabouts of these 82 American airmen and I ask unanimous consent that it appear in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

LIST OF WW II AMERICAN AIRMEN HELD AT BUCHENWALD CONCENTRATION CAMP

NOT LOCATED

Freeman, E.C.
Hanson, J.T.
Horrigan, R.J.
Scharf, B.T.
Scott, G.W.

DECEASED

Alexander, William
Beck, Levit C.
Crouch, M.E.
Duncan, James H.
Heimerman, L.A.
MacLenahan, J.H.
Mauk, W.E.
Pecus, Steve
Pennel, Sam
Smith, J.W.
Vance, Ira E.
Wilson, P.J.
Zeiser, J.
Chapman, Park
Suddock, D.E.
Horwege, G.L.
Edge, W.L.

STILL LIVING

Bauder, W.F.
Bedford, R.L.
Bowen, C.E.

Brown, R.H.
Carr, F.W.
Chalot, J.A.
Chessir, D.
Coats, B.A.
Cowan, F.K.
Coffman, J.D.
Dauteul, D.F.
Denaro, Joe
Fore, J.W.
Hastin, J.D.
Hilding, R.D.
Hunter, H.F.
Johnson, R.T.
King, Myles A.
Larson, M.E.
Little, B.S.
Ludwig, E.F.
McLaughlin, D.G.
Mitchell, G.E.
Moser, J.F.
Pacha, A.M.
Paxton, S.K.
Powell, W.
Reynolds, N.L.
Richey, G.T. Sr.
Ritter, E.W.
Roberson, C.W.
Ryherd, W.H.
Shearer, D.R.
Straulka, P.A. Jr.
Sypher, L.H.
Thompson, W.A.
Vratney, Frank
Watson, J.P.
Ward, Robert
Williams, W.J.
Zander, A.E.
Phelps, B.F.
Pelletier, A.J.
Friel, Edward J.
Petrich, M.R.

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, of the 82 American airmen, there are three from my home State of Arkansas: Mr. William Powell of Bella Vista, Mr. Frank Cowan of Harrison, and Mr. Robert Ward of Springdale.

Before I yield the floor, Mr. President, I want to take this opportunity to share the response of two of those Arkansans when they learned that this resolution was being introduced today.

Mr. William Powell said:

The recognition is long overdue. For decades, the Department of Defense and the International Red Cross have stated that there were no military personnel in Buchenwald. Yet as someone who was imprisoned there for 4 months I know of at least 55 other American soldiers who endured the hardships of this camp. Two men even lost lives there. And nearly all suffered diseases later in life because of the treatment they received while held in Buchenwald.

In the late 70s, early 80s, I joined with the other survivors of Buchenwald to push this government to recognize our service. We never wanted any money, we just wanted the United States Government to say, Yes, you were there, and we appreciate what you went through for our country.

I will quote from Mr. Frank Cowan:

It has been a long time coming, but finally our sacrifice will be acknowledged. Unfortunately, many of those who were at Buchenwald have passed on, nevertheless, there are many of us still alive to enjoy this.

Mr. President, I ask my colleagues today to join us in support of this important measure so those veterans still living, and the families and friends of those who have passed on, can fully realize the public recognition these brave men so surely deserve.